Offices to look after the needs of newspapers in the respective regions.

Centres to be linked on S.T.D. in Maharashtra

1976. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state which are the centres to be linked by STD in Maharashtra during the year 1990 ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): Subject to the availability of equipment, the following centres in Maharashtra are proposed to be linked by SCD during the year 1990-91 :—

Beed, Buldana, Chalisgaon, Khamgaon, Koregaon (Bhima), Matheran, Malegaon, Mahabaleshwar, Nogothane, Phaltan, Pirangut, Pravaranagar, Roha, Shirdi, Tumsar, Waluj, Amalner, Akluj, Khed Shivapur, Pen, Pandharpur.

Introduction of Courses in High-tech Areas of Film and Video

1977. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND RROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start courses in the High-tech Areas of Film and Video electronics by the Centre for the Development of Imaging Technology under the Government of Kerala; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Report on the Working Group in National Film Policy

1978. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any follow up action on the report of the Working Group on National Film Policy headed by Dr. Shivaramakanth and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether any action has been taken on its recommendation to set up Centres for Research and Development in film technology jointly by the State and the Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir. A statement giving information about major recommendations made by the Working Group on National Film Policy headed by Dr. K. S. Karanth and which have been accepted wholly or partly is attached. [*See* Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 83]. Some of the recommendations made by the Working Group have not been accepted. The reasons for not accepting the recommendations are mainly that the subject matter falls within the purview of the State Governments and they have express their reservations in this regard because of financial constraints.

(b) The recommendation made by the Working Group on National Film Policy regarding setting up of two Centres for Research and Development of Film Technology was considered by the Government but was not accepted due to the reason that basic research in the field of optics, electronics and mechanics which are integral to film technology has to be done in the specialised research institutions for which capability in the country already exists.